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TOPIC Barth Firing Range

OBTAINED

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DATE PREPARED 14 August 1952

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REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Four MiG-15s approached Barth airfield on 28 June 1952 at 10:20, 11:20 a.m. and at 12:45 p.m. respectively. The aircraft flew in one line at intervals of 30 to 50 meters. They flew a semi circle over the field, then curved and formed a file. The planes approached the target from an altitude of 1,000 meters and fired with machine guns from an altitude of 300 to 400 meters. The planes approached and left the target at an angle of about 30 degrees. Each plane approached the target only once. Two MiG-15s flying in a line approached the field on 1 July at 11:15 and 11:30 a.m. They fired machine guns.
2. On 8 July, the village authorities of Divitz and Frauendorf issued a prohibition against the use of Barth airfield area as pasture land.
3. During the night of 2 July, [redacted] determined that it has a width of 80 meters and a length of 1,200 meters. *
4. On 8 and 10 July, a plane with a double rudder assembly was observed towing a sleeve target over the area north of the field. A swept-back jet fighter flew near the plane.**

* [redacted] Comment. The reported size of the runway agrees with previous information.
 ** [redacted] Comment. The report confirms that Barth airfield is used as a firing range by jet fighter. The field is used by the fighter regiments stationed in Fuetznitz. The prohibition to use the field as pasture land which was issued on 8 July 1952 indicates that the field is intended for continuous use for firing practices. The twin-engine plane which was observed towing a sleeve target is believed to be a Tu-2 of the target-tow unit stationed at Schoenwalde airfield.

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